

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

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For release: Immediately

Tuesday morning's bombing of the monumental sculpture, The Thinker by Auguste Rodin, has generated sympathetic and concerned response for The Cleveland Museum of Art throughout the country.

One such gesture not only of sympathy but of generosity came from Alexander Rosenberg of New York City who is lending the Museum an example of the Thinker from his private collection. Mr. Rosenberg's sculpture represents the Thinker in its original size which was conceived as a figure to be placed overlooking Rodin's masterpiece, The Gates of Hell.

This 27 inch figure will be exhibited inside the Museum.

B. Gerald Cantor, the Beverly Hills investment banker who is a well known collector of Rodin, later volunteered a temporary replacement for Cleveland's bomb-mutilated bronze. In making the offer Mr. Cantor said: "Rodin, more than any other artist I know, stands for the triumph of the spirit over ignorance and brutality. Cleveland's Thinker has been brutally hurt by a senseless and misdirected act.

I want Cleveland to have the Thinker; the presence of the resurrected spirit, indomitable and universal, of Rodin the artist is paramount. There is no fear in art."

The Museum has been the beneficiary of Mr. Cantor's generosity before. His monumental bronze portrait of Balzac was on loan here from May 31 to October 16 in 1968.

Other messages of sympathy and concern have been received from the Rodin Museum in Philadelphia among others.

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During the period that the Cleveland bronze undergoes restoration, the pedestal which it occupied will carry photographs of the object as it was before and after the explosion took place.

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